SYNOPSIS

'GOODNESS BURNS TOO BRIGHT'

BY JAMES MITCHELL

ACT I

West German agent Bauer goes to Colonel Hunter and his German expert, Maitland, with a scheme to plant an agent in East Germany. He needs an expendable decoy to put the East Germans off the scent. They decide to use Callan as a decoy. Callan is entertaining, in his flat, an old flame, Eva Faber, who is an agent for the West Germans and who has crossed Hunter in the past. Hunter learns of this and decides this is the way to lure Callan over to West Germany. After Eva has left, Hunter pays a call on Callan and manages to make him suspicious about his intentions towards Eva. Callan sets his occasional aide, Lonely, to watch Eva. Lonely tells him that Eva was taken on board a plane bound for West Germany by two men, one of whom Callan recognised as Bauer. Maitland has spotted Lonely trailing Eva and telephones Bauer to say that Callan will soon be on his way to West Germany.

ACT II

Bauer and his side-kick, Franz, are holding Eva at her flat in West Berlin. Callan arrives at the flat, Eva - frightened - fails to call out in time and Callan is knocked out and taken along to Bauer's flat. Bauer tells him that he is going over the wall to be caught as a spy. Back at her flat, Eva tries to telephone the police but is too scared to do so. In Bauer's flat Callan is left alone with Bauer, who has a gun. Callan deliberately taunts him with the beating he gave him last time, to draw Bauer in sufficiently close to hit him. Bauer smashes a gun into Callan's ribs: Callan knocks him out. His ribs broken by the gun blow - Callan breaks into a doctor's house. He is found there by Dr. Schultz, a woman of 60. She is English: her German husband was shot by the Russians in 1945. She agrees to bandage his ribs, tells him he should be in hospital and that she will have to report the matter to the police. Callan says he will have to kill her if she does. In Bauer's flat Maitland has found the unconccious German and brings him round. They start a search for Callan. In Dr. Schultz's house Callan refuses an injection before his ribs are bandaged but accepts a drink of Schnapps. Callan tells her something of the story while she bandages his ribs. He faints from the pain and she takes Bauer's gun away from him.

((MORE))

ACT III

Callan regains consciousness, asks Dr. Schultz if she has called the police. She says she has not. She does not know enough about him yet, didn't think it would be fair. She does, however, know his name, having seen it on his air ticket. There is a developing rapport between her and Callan. She lost both sons in the war: one feels that Callan is a kind of substitute son. Callan tells her that he is being chased by a man sho will kill him, asks for his gun. She gives it to him, but has emptied the bullets down the drain. Bauer calls on Eva to ask if Callan has been back there. He leaves his muscle man Franz with her in case Callan does come back. A Dr. Schultz's house the Doctor is telling Callan she has seen too many men die. She and her husband spoke out against the Nazis. Callan breaks her down into an admission that, in fact, they compromised, they had their sons to protect. He finds that the Doctor's husband was an Infantry Officer in the First World War, she has a picture of him carrying a pistol. Despite his pain he starts to search for the pistol. At Bauer's flat, Maitland is suggesting that if the scheme has now gone so far wrong that Callan - injured - would fail to convince the East Germans as a decoy, he should be killed. In the Doctor's house Callan finds her late husband's old Luger pistol with just two bullets. If things got too bad, says the Doctor, they agreed that they only needed two. Bauer traces Callan to the Doctor's house. Seeking information he strikes her brutally. There is a confrontation between him and Callan. Callan kills him. He rings Eva to tell her. She tries to regain her old footing with him: he is contemptuous about her failure to call out before he walked into the trap at her flat. The Doctor is shattered by Callan's coolly expert slaughter of Bauer. She had been beginning to like him. Callan leaves.

((ENDS))

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CAST LIGHT

CALLAN	EDWARD WOODWARD
HUNTER	RONALD RADD
MAITLAND	JEREMY LLOYD
LONELY	RUSSELL HUNTER
EVA	ROSEMARY FRANKAU
BAUER	ROBERT LANG
FRANZ	LESLIE WHITE
DR. SCHULTZ	GLADYS COOPER

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